

REMARKS

The Office Communication mailed February 22, 2006 has been received and reviewed. Claims 1 through 20 are noted as pending in the Office Communication and are subject to a Restriction Requirement. Claim 12 is amended. Claim 21 is new. Support for amended claim 12 can be found in original claim 12. Support for amended claim 21 can be found in claim 20. Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, claims 1-11, without traverse and without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have amended claim 12 to depend from claim 1. Further, claim 21 depends from claim 1. Applicants have now withdrawn claims 12-20. Applicants specifically request rejoinder of the process claims when a product is indicated as allowable. All amendments have been made without prejudice or disclaimer.

For the species election, Applicants elect at least 5 pg IgA/seeded cell/day, as is referenced in claim 9, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Notice of Non-compliant amendment

Applicants have complied with the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment of February 22, 2006. However, Applicants request clarification of the rules in light of MPEP 821 wherein it states that the Examiner withdraws non-elected claims pursuant to 37 CFR §1.142(b). Here, Applicants properly responded to the restriction requirement by making an election and the Examiner will withdraw the claims upon action on the merits.

Should the Office agree that the Notice was improperly issued, Applicants respectfully request an indication of such in the file.

CONCLUSION

If questions remain after consideration of the foregoing, the Office is kindly requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the address or telephone number given herein.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William P. Ramey, III', written over a horizontal line.

William P. Ramey, III
Registration No. 44,295

Serial No. 10/644,256

Attorney for Applicants
TRASKBRITT, P.C.
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

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